

Application No.: 09/742,686**Atty Docket: 3COM 3354-1****REMARKS**

Claims 1-51 are pending. Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-8, 15-33 and 40-51.

Claims 1-8, 11-17, 36-40 and 50 are objected to because of various informalities. Claims 1-8, 11-17, 36-40 and 50 are amended herein. Claims 9-14 and 34-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Amendments appear above which overcome the objections and rejections, based on the Examiner's helpful guidance.

Claim Objections

The Examiner's objections are noted and all of the suggested amendments have been made.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112 Second Paragraph

The Examiner noted problem with claim 9 that were repeated in claims 11, 34 and 36. The four independent claims have been similarly amended:

storing, in a table, selected sets of forward error correction parameters and net coding gains from using the sets, the sets including at least a number (*s*) of discrete multi-tone symbols in a forward-error-correction frame and a number (*z*) of forward-error-correction control symbols in [[the]] a particular discrete multi-tone symbol, the sets and the net coding gains corresponding to combinations of a signal-to-noise ratio and a number of subchannels carrying [[the]] discrete multi-tone symbol signals;

determining a signal-to-noise ratio representing a set of the subchannels carrying the discrete multi-tone symbol signals; and

The amendments use different terms for different senses in which "discrete multi-tone symbol(s)" are used. One sense now reads "a particular discrete multi-tone symbol" and another now reads "subchannels carrying discrete multi-tone symbol signals". This should make the independent claims definite and overcome the rejections.

Other claims were rejected as being based upon a rejected parent claim. As the parent claims have been corrected, the grounds of rejection should be withdrawn.

Applicants note that antecedent basis issues in some of the rejected claims, similar to the Examiner's objection to claim 50, have been corrected by amendment.

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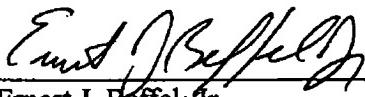
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance and thereby solicit acceptance of the claims, in light of these amendments.

In the interest of efficient prosecution and prompt allowance, a telephonic interview is invited, if an Examiner's amendment can be made to overcome any remaining technical issues regarding the wording of these claims. The undersigned can ordinarily be reached at his office at (650) 712-0340 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. PST, Monday through Friday, and can be reached at his cell phone at (415) 902-6112 most other times.

Respectfully submitted,

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